FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PSD REPORTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESHUFFLE

PY121456 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1710 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Dec (TELAM) -- The Socialist Democratic Party [PSD] has reported the reshuffling and expansion of its National Executive Committee following the provisions which have been recently adopted by the party's National Council.

The Executive Committee's board of directors is made up as follows: Secretary general, Emilio J. Giannoni; secretary in charge of minutes, Juan Jose Poderoso; treasurer, Miguel F. Punta; and regular members Americo Ghioldi, Raul T. Dellepiane, Walter Constanza, Norberto La Porta, Omar Cavazzoni, Nestor Jimena, Jose Rodriguez Cabarcos and Antonio Cartana Jr.

The alternate members of the board of directors are: Teodoro Bronzini, Luis Nuncio Fabrizio, Rene Balestra, Ruben Maimone, Hector Robles and Orlando Carracedo.

BIG OIL STRIKE MADE IN TIERRA DEL FUEGO

PY121847 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1959 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (TELAM) -- There has been an important petroleum and gas find at the Aries X-I well, located in area I off the coast of Tierra del Fuego, which is being drilled by the firms Total, Deminex and Bridas under contract to the Government Oil Deposits [YPF], it was reported today.

The well struck oil at a depth of 1,620 meters, initially producing from the first trial stratum 230 cubic meters per day of petroleum and 790,000 cubic meters of gas per day from the remaining two strata (three interesting strata were selected for trials).

The YPF report indicates that in order to definitively evaluate the discovery a detailed analysis of the technical information obtained will be necessary, and at the same time it emphasizes that Aries X-I is the fourth test well drilled in that area and that gas had been discovered in the three previous wells.

SECURITY FORCES RAID TERRORIST HIDEOUT

PY122055 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1210 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jan (NA) -- According to military sources, the joint security forces have raided an apartment used as a hideout by terrorists in the city of Ramos Mejia, east of Buenos Aires.

The raid was carried out yesterday at dawn on the eighth floor of a 12-story building located at 2275 Gaona Avenue. A large number of personnel were deployed in the operation. The apartment was rented approximately 2 months ago by two youths who, according to the sources, are reportedly members of the Montoneros terrorist organization.

The whole building was evacuated in case explosives were found. This caused alarm in the surrounding area but, although experts of the San Justo antiexplosive brigade had to defuse several booby trap bombs, there were no casualties.

The sources also said that no one was arrested but that during the raid they found weapons of different calibers and modern transmitters connected to a 12-meter extendable antenna. The transmitters were used to interfere with radio and television casts in the area. Recording equipment and cassettes with proclamations against the government and the "Peronist March" were also found.

MNR SEEKING REUNIFICATION OF VARIOUS FACTIONS

PY122036 Paris AFP in Spanish 2239 GMT 6 Jan 82

[Text] La Paz, 6 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the various factions of the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), historically Bolivia's most important political party and the one which staged the 9 April 1952 revolution, are trying hard to reunify the party.

It was learned from MNR sources that leader Victor Paz Estenssoro, the historic leader of the party, has reportedly entrusted a reliable person with attending the corresponding meetings.

Reportedly the other person sponsoring the reunification is former presidential candidate Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez, who has been called the planner of the coup staged by Col Alberto Natusch Busch on 1 November 1979. That coup ended with the death of over 200 persons in the city of La Paz and with the removal of the coup leader.

It was also learned that, following its reunification, the MNR will seek immediate agreements with the Nationalist Democratic Alliance (ADN), led by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez (1971-1978), and with the Christian Democratic Party with the object of offering the country a political alternative.

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS 'NO POLITICAL PRISONERS'

PY122103 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Shortly after a meeting with President Celso Torrelio, Interior Minister Romulo Mercado Garnica stressed that no persons are under arrest for political reasons and that everything is absolutely normal in the country.

Asked by reporters about the situation of a person who was arrested during the raid on a house on 1 January -- where material regarded as subversive was found -- who has reportedly not yet been released, the minister pointed out that all the persons involved in that incident were released and that if this were not true, their relatives would be demanding their release.

DEFENSE MINISTRY TO RESTRUCTURE PRODUCTIVE UNITS

PY122124 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Defense Minister Maj Gen Armando Reyes Villa has announced that the productive units under his portfolio will be restructured so that they can provide effective support. He said that the plan will involve the projects of the Armed Forces National Development Corporation (COFADENA) which is in charge of the explosives factory and of other industrial organizations of a classified nature.

PLANNING MINISTER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT 1982 ECONOMY

PY121120 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Dec 81 p 19

[Excerpts] During an interview granted to a television channel, Minister Delfim Neto said that the three main objectives of the Brazilian economy during 1981 had been achieved, and stated: "Since we have taken the right path we should now take advantage of our achievements during 1981 to continue growing." He said that "This is what we are going to do next year" and predicted a growth of "approximately" 4 to 5 percent.

Delfim Neto stated that the three main objectives were achieved during 1981. In the first place, inflation is dropping and I hope it will continue to do so; secondly the balance of payments this year should show a surplus of $1 billion which, compared to last year's deficit of $2.8 billion, represents a substantial inprovement; and in the third place we continue to substantially reduce our dependency on petroleum imports, he said.

The planning minister said that the perspectives for the foreign debt in 1982 are very good.

Our foreign debt by the end of 1981 should amount to $60 billion, which undoubtedly is somewhat high but perfectly manageable. We will once again obtain from $14 to $15 billion in the market for servicing our debts. It seems that in 1982 interest rates will be somewhat lower than in 1981.

Minister Delfim Neto also stated that in 1982 the government's priority objectives will continue to be the same to those during 1981: agriculture, which is the main priority, and exports.

[Question] And how will the interest rates be established during 1982?

[Neto] They will remain as they are at present: deregulated.

[Question] Is there a tendency for them to drop?

[Answer] Naturally, interest rates tend to drop as inflation drops.

[Question] Mr Minister, will the 1982 budget be less tight and grant more credits?

[Answer] It will at least allow an easier year.

[Question] Is that what you intend?

[Answer] Yes. Once again we are going to try expanding means of payment by 50 percent. We obviously achieved quite different results last year, because prices increased far more than we had expected. I believe that we will be able to expand means of payment by 50 percent and that prices will not increase so much in 1982.

PAPER APPROVES TAKEOVER OF JARI PROJECT

PY130119 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 12 Jan 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Jari Project"]

[Text] The salvation of the most ambitious project ever undertaken in the Amazon region is currently being worked out in the back corridors of power in Brasilia and the boardrooms of some of Brazil's most prestigious financial and industrial concerns.

The Jari project, dreamchild of American billionaire Daniel Ludwig, will be nationalized -- in the best sense of the word.

Ludwig's estimated personal investment of a billion dollars in the incredible undertaking to turn a Belgium-size area of the Amazon into a major pulp, food and ceramic clay operation had fallen on difficult times. After 15 years of effort, Ludwig's Jari project was still losing on the order of a $100 million annually, and Ludwig was the object of considerable nationalistic sniping from some government sectors.

It now appears that an unprecedented solution is forming. A consortium of Brazilian companies (up to 20) led by veteran minerals investor Augusto Trajano de Azevedo Antunes of the CAEMI [Mining Enterprises Assistance Corporation, Campanhia Auxiliar de Empresas de Mineracao] group is on the verge of taking over the operation, with a minor participation being played by the Brazilian Government.

The solution is unprecedented in that it would be the first time so many Brazilian private businesses got together to participate in such a major project; in the past, the government has generally stepped in to operate similar ventures. But the government, under guidelines delineated last year by President Joao Figueiredo, has made it clear it wants to divest itself of many businesses. That philosophy of getting government out of business in now being translated directly into efforts to encourage private businessmen to take over Jari rather than expect the government to bail it out.

The Jari project was always a high risk venture. In the 15 years that Ludwig put it together, he invested his own funds, dispensing with Brazilian Government fiscal incentives. He gambled and, in fact, has lost quite heavily in financial terms. But Jari stands today as a potentially rich and lucrative undertaking. There is no reason to believe that the project, which supports some 40,000 Brazilians already, is unviable. To the contrary, it has shown great promise.

The idea of Jari being continued under the control of private Brazilian business is exciting and invigorating. Ludwig's original dream is still valid. The time is right for Brazilians to bring it to reality.

BRIEFS

NEW ARMY DEPARTMENT CHIEF -- Army Minister Walter Pires presided over the swearing-in ceremony of Gen (Jose Magalhaes da Silveira) as chief of the Army War Materiel Department on 7 January. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Jan 82 PY]

EXPORT FIGURES -- The Industry and Commerce Ministry reported on 7 January that coffee, sugar and steel exports totaled $6 billion in 1981 representing 17 percent of Brazilian exports. Brazil exported 16 billion sacks of coffee worth $2 billion while sugar exports totaled over $1 billion. The Industry Ministry added that last year Brazilian iron and steel corporation exports, which increased on 40 percent, totaled $287.6 million. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Jan 82 PY]

STEEL PRODUCTION DROPS -- The Brazilian Iron and Steel Institute reported on 8 January that in 1981 native steel production dropped 13.8 percent as compared to 1980. Production figures are 15,337 tons in 1980 and 13,213 tons in 1981. Production of rolled sheets and rolled steel fell 9.5 percent and 9.9 percent respectively. Production of rods was 188,200 tons in 1981. [Brazilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Jan 82 PY]

OIL EXPORATION CONTRACT -- Petrobras signed an oil prospecting contract on 6 January with the Occidental Exploration (Production) Company. This company will prospect for oil on the Ceara continental shelf in an area covering over 3,000 square km. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Jan 82 PY]

OFFICIAL DENIES SHIP SUNK BY VENEZUELAN GUARDS

PA120417 Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Bogota -- The Foreign Minister today denied that a Colombian vessel with several persons aboard was fired on and sunk by the Venezuelan National Guards at La Guaimia border point.

An authorized spokesman speaking in the name of Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said the information published in Villavicencio was not correct; the situation on the border is normal. No incidents have been reported, he added.

MAS MADE UP OF FORMER POLICE, ARMY MEMBERS

PA120425 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Bogota -- The sinister squadron MAS [Muerte a Secuestradores -- death to kidnappers] which made its appearance early this month in Medellin announcing a relentless battle against kidnappers, is totally up of former military elements.

The makeup of MAS, which earlier was attributed to the drug-trafficking mafia, was revealed to this station by reliable sources linked to the National Defense Ministry, who asked not to be identified.

According to these sources, all MAS members are former police officers or former army members, most of whom were discharged for bad conduct.

23 GUERRILLAS, 3 POLICEMEN KILLED IN JANUARY

PA122124 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Bogota -- Twenty-three guerrillas of the self-styled 19 April Movement, M-19, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC and the People's Liberation Army (EPL) have died so far this year, military sources said. The M-19 has had the largest number of victims. They suffered 17 casualties during the first 12 days of January in clashes in Caqueta Intendancy. The other insurgents were members of FARC and of EPL and died in clashes in Santander Department and in the central part of the country.

The casualties suffered by the armed forces to date are three policemen killed and seven policemen and soldiers wounded.

PRESIDENT BELAUNDE DISCUSSES HIS ADMINISTRATION

PY121354 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 28 Dec 81 p 2

[Excerpts] President Belaunde, accompanied by his wife and standing by a nativity scene set up in the presidential residence, talked about public indebtedness, prospects for 1982, achievements during 1981, Ecuadorean arms build up and protection for industry.

The chief of state also talked about inflation, construction of penitentiaries, punishments for terrorists, construction of farm houses and about an interesting system for granting greater facilities for the purchase of houses from the state.

This is a summary of his remarks.

Regarding 1981, Belaunde said that 1981 was a year characterized by freedom enhancing the dignity of the Peruvian people. The difficult economic situation has been well endured and the working class and its leaders have, with few exceptions, acted with a great sense of responsibility.

President Belaunde emphasized once again the demand for manual labor generated by the construction projects being carried out by his government, both the housing and highway projects like the Chancay-Huacho highway, which is going to be very modern and will prevent accidents.

In answer to a question about the inflation rate published by the IMF, the president said that inflation was just over 70 percent with a downward tendency.

Regarding the delays in the trial of alleged terrorists, President Belaunde justified the judicial process within the framework of a democracy. He said that there are people who are going to be sentenced since they have probably participated in these actions. He indicated that the blowing up of high tension towers deserves a minimum of 10 years in prison and more if people are hurt.

In conclusion, the chief of state during his regular press conference conveyed his end of the year message calling for friendship and the consolidation of democracy with the help of the opposition.

"The opposition can do everything except govern" said Belaunde in reference to some of these sectors who are trying to tell the government what to do, something with which unfortunately it will be impossible to comply.

He said: We have to listen, keep things in mind and use ideas that are practicable, but the responsibility for government is ours. We are not here sitting on a pedestal or feeling superior to our countrymen, because for us the government is an obligation we have to all Peruvians and political parties. We have come to the end of the year just as we started, thinking only of Peru.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY UNION STRIKE CALLED OFF

PY121545 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Arequipa, Peru, 11 Jan (TELAM) -- Workers of the Southern Railway union have ended the strike called on Thursday and today resumed their work in this city, located 1,000 km south of Lima. The paralyzed freight and passenger train services to Juliaca and Puno were resumed with the ending of the strike. In turn, the Labor Ministry has reported that representatives of the 2,000 workers of the state-owned Petroperu (State Petroleum Agency) have returned to their work places to publicize the formula for solving the dispute raised by salary demands. The union's general assembly is expected to decide shortly whether the strike will be called off.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF IDB-BCIE MEETING

PA120444 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 0058 GMT 12 Jan 82

[(Jose Emiliano Soriano) report]

[Text] We are greeting you from the headquarters of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration, BCIE, where an important meeting of the IDB and the BCIE was held. An official communique just released by BCIE officials, or rather by IDB officials, says the following regarding this very important Central American meeting:

Antonio Ortiz Mena, president of the IDB, is visiting the Republic of Honduras to meet with the governors of the IDB for Central America and Panama, in response to an invitation extended by the BCIE. The following governors participated in the meeting this afternoon, representing Central America: Jose Miguel Alfaro, vice president of the Republic of Costa Rica; Atilio Vieytez, planning minister of El Salvador; Arnoldo Belteton, minister of finance of Guatemala; Alfredo Cesar Aguirre, minister president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, Gusutavo A. Gonzalez, adviser of the president of the Republic of Panama; and Alberto Galeano Madrid, president of the BCIE.

During the meeting with the governors, there was discussion of a special operational program that has been prepared by the bank in close cooperation with the BCIE and the various countries of the Central American area to support the economic and social development of the countries of the Central American isthmus and Panama, in compliance with the mandate given by the assembly of governors of the IDB which met in April, 1980 in Rio de Janeiro.

The basic objectives considered for the formulation of the special operational program were the following:

1. The maintaining and advancement of the integrationist process as one of the main means of overcoming the obstacles to development being faced by Central America.

2. The concept of financial support directed preferably toward the area as a whole and in a parallel and complementary manner toward the national programs being carried out by the bank in the countries of the area.

3. The establishment of a permanent mechanism for investment and preinvestment, with emphasis on the preparation of specific projects to guarantee the sustained development of the processes of economic and social progress.

During the meeting of the governors this afternoon, it was determined that it would be advantageous to carry out this program and to continue subsequent actions to help it become a reality. The operational program consists of three groups of activities for the 1982-85 period; a plan for short-term investments, a basic preinvestment plan for the medium term and a long-term preinvestment plan. These plans include investments in the areas of energy, transportation and telecommunications for the six countries of the Central American isthmus.

In the course of the meeting, President Ortiz Mena accepted the mandate of the six countries to have the IDB preside over the integrational committee within the cooperating group for the economic development of the Central American isthmus. He indicated that on his return to Washington, he will immediately convoke a meeting of the interagency committee to draft up a program of action.

The document states that at the request of the governors, the meeting discussed the immediate difficulties that are hindering the adequate financing of productive activities in the area, resulting in the deterioration of the foreign reserves of some countries, which has had a negative effect on the integration efforts of the Central American countries.

The IDB president offered all assistance in channeling resources through the bank, with the understanding that these resources would have to be obtained from capital markets and through programs for bilateral aid, since the resources of the bank would have already been allocated for strengthening investment programs. In this regard, President Ortiz Mena said, according to the document that was just released, that contacts would be maintained at the highest level with the World Bank and with the IMF and other sources to determine the manner in which they, together with the IDB and the BCIE, could plan to participate in this effort as part of the work of the interagency committee.

This was an IDB official communique which was released some 10 minutes ago at the end of the important meeting between the president of the IDB and the governors of the BCIE.

BELIZE

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO SIGNED

FL120226 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] A cultural exchange agreement between Belize and Mexico has been signed. Signing the document this afternoon in Belmopan were Belize's minister of education and sports, Mr Said Musa, and visiting Mexican minister of [public] education, Mr Fernando Solana. Mr Solana and other Mexican officials were on a 1-day visit to Belize today. They held discussions with the minister of education and other officials of the Ministry of Education this morning and met with Prime Minister Honorable George Price at a working luncheon this afternoon.

On his arrival in Belmopan this morning, the Mexican minister of [public] education described his visit as signaling a new phase in the relations between Belize and Mexico, relations that are now even more close and cordial than ever.

In reply, Minister Musa declared that Belize, though a small country, will, in its own modest way, contribute to the cultural exchange agreement, particularly in the field of the English language. The cultural exchange agreement signed this afternoon, among other things, provides for the establishment of a mixed commission appointed by both countries. This commission will meet every 2 years alternately in Belize and Mexico, or more often as may be required to develop a program of both cultural and educational exchange between the two countries.

The agreement calls for links between teaching institutions in both countries, visits by prominent persons involved in cultural research, as well as educators, writers, composers, painters and artists. It also commits Belize and Mexico to cooperate in combating the illegal traffic of archeological and anthropological material and other art works. It provides for the protection of copyrights and for cooperation in physical education (?and sports) through the exchange of sportsmen, trainers, specialists and teams.

COSTA RICA

BORDER DELIMITATION DISCUSSED WITH NICARAGUA

PA122116 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Deputy Public Security Minister Harry Wohlstein Rubinstein has traveled to the Costa Rican northern border to meet with a member of the Nicaraguan Government junta. In the meeting held at the Agriculture Ministry's offices in Costa Rican territory, they discussed subjects dealing with the delimitation of the two countries' border area.

Public Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona said they did not discuss anything related to the discovery of the counterrevolutionaries' camp because this occurred in Costa Rica and the Nicaraguan authorities have nothing to do with it. Since Carmona became minister, he has been particularly interested in delimiting the border area so that the Nicaraguans will not be entering Costa Rica due to the absence of boundary markers.

FATHER OF REBEL LEADER CAPTURED IN EL SALVADOR

PA130352 Paris AFP in Spanish 2138 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] San Jose, 12 Jan (AFP) -- According to sources in Costa Rica linked to the Salvadoran opposition sector, the capture in San Salvador of Luis Villalobos, father of guerrilla commander Joaquin Villalobos, was reported here today by his relatives. Villalobos, 64, "yesterday was violently forced out of his printing shop by members of the security corps in the presence of his children and several employees," according to the report. Villalobos' relatives said he "did not participate in national politics."

Commander Joaquin Villalobos is the chief of the rebel forces active in the eastern part of the country, "where the army has suffered many casualties in the past few days, including an officer," the sources revealed. So far, neither the government nor the military circles have given their version of Villalobos' arrest, and his family fears for his life, it was noted. Shortly after the capture of kidnapping of Villalobos, his printing shop was destroyed by fire, after unknown people hurled incendiary bombs at the premises.

EL SALVADOR

FREE TRADE TREATY WITH HONDURAS TO BE RATIFIED

PA130400 Paris AFP in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jan 82

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Jan (AFP) -- The secretaries of state for economy and foreign relations of Honduras, Ruben Mondragon and Cesar Elvir Sierra, will arrive in this capital tomorrow for the exchange of ratification instruments for the free trade treaty signed between the two nations, the presidency's information secretariat announced. Thus, with the ratification of the free trade treaty between Honduras and El Salvador, the general peace treaty signed by the two countries on 30 October 1980 in Lima, Peru, becomes effective.

The Honduran delegation also includes Mauricio Caceres, undersecretary of state for economy; and Virgilio Galvez, who was that country's ambassador in El Salvador shortly before the break of relations in 1969, which were restored with the signing of the general peace treaty. The Honduran officials will be greeted at the international airport by their counterparts here, Oscar Melgar and Fidel Chavez Mena, ministers of economy and foreign relations.

FMLN HONORS 1981 GENERAL OFFENSIVE, VENCEREMOS

PA121510 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Communique issued by the FMLN general command on 10 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] Today, 10 January 1982, the Salvadoran people and their vanguard, the FMLN, celebrate the first anniversary of one of the most significant dates in the history of our liberation process: The general offensive of 10 January 1981. On that historic date, the revolutionary forces and the masses jointly participated in the general offensive order by the FMLN general command.

Some cities were militarily seized while others were besieged. In many areas, the people's attack forced the dictatorship's forces to withdraw to their garrisons. In Santa Ana, a group of progessive soldiers of the 2d Infantry Brigade garrison also rebelled and joined the people's combative actions in support of democratic and revolutionary ideals.

The 10 January general offensive not only demonstrated the strength and power achieved by our people in arms but was also the event that marked a significant change in the balance of forces, which became favorable to the people in their hard struggle for liberation. After the 10 January insurrection, the revolutionary forces were able to seize control from the enemy over specific zones of the country. This made possible the main military achievement of our forces; the securing of an effective rearguard in our own territory.

As a result of these achievements, the Salvadoran revolutionary forces began to take the strategic offensive in the development of the war. Today, 1 year after those actions, our forces have developed, grown and advanced. We have defeated all the offensives that the enemy has launched against our positions and we have advanced to new phases of the war, improving and consolidating our offensive capability against the dictatorship which remains in power solely due to the aid of U.S. imperialism.

On this date we also celebrate the first anniversary of Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN. The radio station has become a means to rally the people, to break the news blackout imposed by the military-Christian Democratic junta and imperialism, as well as a source of news on the consolidation of the zones under the people's control.

On this first anniversary of these two historic events, the FMLN general command greets the revolutionary combatants and all the Salvadoran people, protagonists of 10 January, of that great qualitative leap forward which the general offensive signified.

On this occasion we also pay homage to all the combatants, cadres and military chiefs who died in the heroic battles in Chalatenango, San Vicente, Santa Ana, (Cuchomantamones), San Salvador, Zacatecoluca, Cabanas, Usulutan and Morazan. With their blood, they have helped prepare the way for new victories leading to our liberation.

United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death; we will win! For the FMLN general command; Commander Ferman Cienfuegos; Commander Salvador Cayetano Carpio; "Marcial" Commander Joaquin Villalobos; Commander Shafick Handal; Commander Roberto Roca.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO MAKES UNANNOUNCED VISIT TO VENEZUELA

PA130350 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2306 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Caracas, 12 Jan (EFE) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, currently visiting this capital, expressed today his country's fear that it might be attacked at any moment. After meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart, Jose Alberto Zambrano, the Nicaraguan minister held a 90-minute meeting with President Luis Herrera Campins. D'Escoto's short visit to Caracas caused surprise in diplomatic circles since the Venezuelan Government had not announced it.

Addressing newsmen, the Nicaraguan foreign minister said that he had talked to the Venezuelan president about Nicaragua's specific situation and about the current threats of aggression. Asked about the support that President Herrera Campins may have offered him, he answered that Nicaraguans have never doubted this support. "President Luis Herrera Campins," he said, "is Nicaragua's friend and is respectful of the free determination of peoples."

He stressed that in addition to the "verbal terrorism" that the U.S. Government has against Nicaragua, there is now the real threat of specific actions by certain Latin American countries.

When newsmen asked him what countries would be involved in this aggression against his country, the foreign minister chose "to leave that answer" to the Sandinist government leaders. He underscored that "there is a situation marked by aggression on the part of reactionary sectors from the United States and other Latin American countries that would like to make Nicaragua regress, so that it would once again be subservient to the imperial U.S. will." He added that Nicaragua feels threatened by some kind of international conspiracy, not only directly from the United States, but in the form of specific actions by a number of Latin American countries.

Regarding his government's purchase of French weapons, he said that each nation has the right to buy war materiel to defend its sovereignty and territorial security. According to the foreign minister, there is at present a greater consolidation of the revolutionary process, which he described as "irreversible."

D'Escoto chose not to expand on the reasons for this unexpected visit to Venezuela and his meetings with Zambrano and President Herrera Campins. He announced that many aspects of his country's current situation, particularly concerning the charges on the attack that might be carried out against that nation, will be revealed shortly in Managua.

After this short visit to Caracas, the Nicaraguan foreign minister left several questions unanswered for Venezuelan public opinion, for little has been learned about the contents of his discussions with his hosts, President Herrera and Foreign Minister Zambrano.

CARDENAL LEAVES FOR PEACE CONGRESS IN PERU

PA122010 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] An FSLN commission left today for Peru, Ecuador and Venezuela to alert the solidarity committees to the permanent danger of aggression against our popular Sandinist revolution. Father Fernando Cardenal, member of the Sandinist assembly, said before his departure that the PAR [Renovation Action Party] has entrusted him with the mission of contacting all the political parties and trade unions in those countries and informing them of what is happening internally. Cardenal said: It isn't true that our revolution has lost popularity, as national and international reactionary forces have been saying.

Fernando Cardenal, accompanied by (Stella Sequeira), will represent the FSLN at the Continental congress for peace, human rights, and self-determination of the Salvadoran people in Peru on 19-20 January. The congress is sponsored by the Latin American Human Rights Association with the collaboration of Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPPAL.

All political parties will be asked to express the usual solidarity with our revolution. Father Cardenal said that former Colombian Foreign Minister Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa, the president of the Mexican Institutional Revolutionary Party, PRI, and the mother superior general of the Maryknoll Sisters will attend the congress, as well as Guillermo Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, of El Salvador, among other prominent people.

Statement at Airport

PA121740 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] The tone of imperialist threats may have changed, but threats of aggression against our people persist.

A Sandinist delegation has left for three South American countries to alert political parties, organizations and committees of solidarity with Nicaragua about the difficult situation, Father Fernando Cardenal said yesterday at Sandino airport, as he walkded toward the airplane. Fernando Cardenal's mission is to strengthen ties with countries and parties which have maintained their solidarity with our revolution despite the campaign of slanders against our revolutionary process. Here is the interview held as we walked toward the airplane taking Father Fernando Cardenal to Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela:

[Begin Cardenal recording] Always in keeping with FSLN guidelines to progressively strengthen support from abroad, from political parties that have supported the Sandinist cause in the past and that still it support today, this mission is to strengthen the work that several political parties in those countries have carried out on behalf of our people's cause, on behalf of our reconstruction, on behalf of the cause sponsored by the FSLN through the Sandinist people's revolution.

During this mission we also expect to strengthen and, in a sense, alert these solidarity committees because the situation regarding imperialist threats has not changed. Some may think that since the tone of that hysterical yelling of the Reagan administration's main figures is lowered, the threat has vanished.

The threat is as imminent as it was 1 month ago. We must be alert. We have been invited to attend a continental conference on behalf of peace, human rights and the self-determination of the Salvadoran people, to be held in Lima, Peru, on 19 and 20 January. At that meeting we will represent the FSLN with a position which Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, clearly defined in his speech to the United Nations. Our position is to uphold those principles outlined by Commander Ortega during that meeting and to lend our solidarity and full support to the Salvadoran peoples' struggle. [end recording]

MINISTRY SAYS HIJACKED SHIP IN HONDURAN PORT

PA122117 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1840 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Managua, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reported today that the Nicaraguan vessel "Maruca," hijacked on 6 January in Nicaraguan waters, is in an unidentified Honduran port. Roberto Wilson, captain of the vessel -- which belongs to the Nicaraguan fishing firm Copesnica, S.A. -- was accused, along with three sailors, a winch operator and four Miskito Indians, of hijacking the vessel.

A witness, Bernabe Hernandez, gave Nicaraguan authorities in Bluefields the details of the hijacking, pointing out that he was taken off the vessel because he opposed this act of piracy. Officials at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Honduras received instructions today to negotiate the vessel's release.

AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO COMMENTS ON NEED FOR ARMS

FL122057 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1920 GMT 12 Jan 82

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaragua was compelled by necessity to divert some of its resources toward arms purchases because of the U.S. Government policy of arming the "North-Central American" triangle formed by Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. This was pointed out by Aldo Diaz Lacayo, Nicaraguan ambassador to Mexico, in an interview at the official government residence shortly after the diplomatic corps greeted President Jose Lopez Portillo on the new year.

The diplomat said that U.S. military assistance to those Central American countries is so exaggerated that the military structure of those countries cannot adjust to it. As a result, Nicaragua, much to its regret, has warned that this will be a very difficult economic year for the countries of the south whose problems are magnified because they are poorer.

He called for a halt to the rhetoric in various international forums in order to build a solid basis for resolving the more urgent problems undermining North-South relations. He added that there are very serious problems in trade. There is a constant drop in the export prices of developing countries' raw materials, while at the same time there is an increase in purchases of finished goods and a manipulation of interest rates in the money market.

CUBAN MINISTER TO INAUGURATE SUGAR MILL PROJECT

PA121500 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Diocles Torralba, Cuban minister of the sugar industry, arrived in Nicaragua today to participate tomorrow, Tuesday, at the start of the construction work of a new Nicaraguan sugar mill. Minister Torralba, who is also vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, arrived in Managua aboard the 19 de Julio airplane owned by the Nicaraguan Government.

The Cuban minister said at the Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport that the new Nicaraguan sugar complex will be built between Tipitapa and Malacatoya, northeast of Managua. It will cost $12 million. The Cuban Government will give Nicaragua several million dollars in long-term loans and technical assistance.

The construction will take 3 years and will provide work for thousands of workers, said Jaime Wheelock, Nicaraguan agricultural development and agrarian reform minister. Wheelock welcomed Torralba at the airport. The new sugar mill will have a daily grinding capacity of 7,000 tons and a yearly production of 125,000 tons of sugar, as well as 50,000 tons of syrup.

MINISTRY PRESENTS JUDICIAL REFORM BILL TO JUNTA

PA121410 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] The Nicaraguan Justice Ministry presented a judicial reform bill to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Besides trying to update and facilitate the administration of justice, the bill follows one of the revolution's basic principles: that the people should participate in all aspects of national life. This is how we make history. Substantial reforms to the administration of justice in the new Nicaragua are included in the bill presented by the Justice Ministry to the government.

The plan anticipates far-reaching changes in the obsolete penal codes drafted by the oligarchy over a century ago and maintained by the Somozist regime. The coming to power of liberals in the decade of the 20's did not bring, as in other Latin American countries, changes in the old legal structures drafted during the previous century by the land-holding and exporting bourgeoisie. The liberal alternative in Nicaragua was imposed from abroad and within the imperialist system, and did not mean a radical change in the historical process but rather the installation of a national political force to serve as an instrument for imperialist domination over the country. Therefore, throughout its history, Somozism never even updated the codes as most Latin American nations did during the first half of this century.

Two years after the revolution, the structure and operation of the judicial system have only changed slightly. Corrupt judges appointed by Somozism have been dismissed, but the judicial structure remains practically intact.

In trying to change the judicial system in Nicaragua, the revolution confronts a double challenge. On one hand, the system needs to be flexible, modern, efficient and truly just. Also, the appropriate relationship must exist between these reforms and the social, political and economic changes occurring in the new Nicaragua. This process is characterized by its democratic and popular nature. The judicial system should serve the great majorities, especially the working class.

The judicial reform bill has four fundamental aspects: greater people's participation in the administration of justice, elimination of the system of sentences by [word indistinct], greater flexibility in the presentation of evidence in trials and review of instruction procedures in trials. The four basic elements of the judicial reform bill correspond to the concerns expressed by magistrates, jurists, mass organizations and the Sandinist police, which have, for several months, been demanding that the codes be reformed.

In mid-1981, a juridical seminar was held in Managua. It was entitled: Justice in the Revolution. Judges, lawyers and representatives of the various community sectors analyzed the complex problem of creating a new judicial order according to the revolutionary advance. But the consultations and exchange of opinions did not end here. Similar meetings of a more specific nature were held. In university seminars and the council of state, the debate on the amendments continued.

A result of this broad discussion was the bill presented to the government junta for its study and later analysis by the State Council. The bill is a new law for a new Nicaragua.

Within a revolutionary context we cannot contemplate judicial reform without including the masses who create the revolutionary process, said Nicaragua Justice Minister Ernesto Castillo while commenting the fundamental aspects of the judicial reform bill. When the masses are integrated into the administration of justice, the minister added, we shall put an end to the justice of the minority which drafted, administered and interpreted laws for over a century.

Representatives of a whole people have participated in drafting a bill that will fundamentally change the administration of justice throughout Nicaragua. Representatives of all the people will also participate in the administration of justice in the new Nicaragua. This is how we make history.

ROBELO INTERVIEWED ON 10 JAN DEMOCRATIC MARCH

PA120351 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Yesterday, following the democratic march to the Managua general cemetery, our reporters interviewed Engineer Alfonso Robelo Callejas, national leader of the Ramiro Sacasa Democratic Coordinating Board, on the incidents that followed these activities.

[Begin recording] [Robelo] I am indeed pleased with the results obtained in view of the large number of persons who joined the democratic march, particularly because of the quality of the participants. Our estimates were truly exceeded beyond all expectation; the enthusiasm was evident among the participants. In fact, it was a march of the Nicaraguan people, and this must be emphasized; the march was made up by humble people, workers, peasants, students. In all, there was a very high percentage of that Nicaraguan people, of that popular support for Pedro Joaquin Chamorro and Luis Medrano Flores and for their ideals and the ideals of the Democratic Coordinating Board.

There is no doubt that Pedro Joaquin Chamorro unites the democratic forces even after his death, which is extraordinary. Pedro Joaquin Chamorro was a factor of unity with his blood against Somoza and, today, 4 years after his death, he continues to be a factor of unity because, we must insist, the quantity and quality of the participants to the march went beyond all our expectations. It was a truly successful event.

The final phase of this patriotic march, however, was somewhat marred by the action of fanatic groups, sadly contaminated by hatred, unfortunately the result of so many thoughtless heated speeches which have poisoned the minds and encourage dissent among Nicaraguans. Despite all this, we feel there was another most positive factor; the participants of the march courageously faced these groups who came to try to stir up disturbances. The march was carried out as planned, entering the cemetery through the main gate, delivering the scheduled speeches before the tomb of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, and leaving the premises through the main gate, all of which greatly pleased us. I believe this has been a great beginning for 1982. The Nicaraguan people won their right to express themselves freely on the streets or wherever necessary, according to the law, observing the order that marked the behavior of all participants in this democratic march.

[Question] Engineer Robelo, in a previous statement, you said the majority of the participants were workers, peasants, humble people. What comments can there be made concerning the presence of these workers, peasants and humble people in the march?

[Answer] I believe that the conclusion one must reach after considering all this carefully is that the poisoning of minds and the promoted hatred of classes did not yield the results desired by their promoters. The opposition to the project the government party wants to sell is something that cannot be pinned on one sector of the population, as it, in fact, comes from all sectors; workers; peasants, proletarians in general, businessmen, women, children, poor and wealthy -- in fact, all sectors.

The march proved all this and now nobody can say that the march only attracted the wealthy and the bourgeoisie in a protest against the government. In fact, it was not a protest against the government, but a tribute to the memories and ideals of a democratic leader, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, and a labor leader, Luis Medrano Flores. The banner that was raised there has the support not only of one sector, but of all sectors amply and courageously represented there.

[Question] During the field battle -- there was actually a face to face stand off by two sectors, one disturbed, and the other that expressed itself publicly through an orderly march. In the midst of all this, we observed the presence of the Sandinist police. Before making our own comments, we would like to hear those of the political leader who headed the people yesterday morning during that civic march, concerning the behavior of the authorities at the most critical stages of the incidents?

[Answer] I have always spoken the truth and I believe that on this occasion, we must give the national police the support they deserve for their attitude. Their behavior in general was very good, they made a serious effort -- I saw policemen hit with rocks and sticks -- to prevent things from getting worse and to protect the participants of the democratic march. I believe they deserve recognition from the Nicaraguan people. The police behaved correctly. Perhaps, and this is not meant at all as criticism, they could have prevented some of the incidents if they had tried to convince the provoking mob to disperse earlier as they had nothing to do there. This would have probably prevented some of us from suffering bruised heads and bodies today. We insist, however, that in general, we must publically recognize the work of the police, because for the first time we felt a serious effort was made on their part, even at their own personal risk, to protect the citizens conducting the democratic march.

[Question] Would you like to make a final comment?

[Answer] I believe the government of this country, which has named 1982 as the year of unity in the face of aggression, must realize that in order to truly achieve that unity, there must not be aggression between Nicaraguans; that the aggression, when is springs from people who have been motivated by speeches, attacks and hatred by the government leaders, produces a situation that must be overcome in order to achieve the desired unity.

For instance, yesterday, 10 January, where did the aggression come from and where was the unity? The unity was evidently in the sector amply represented by the thousands of Nicaraguans who participated in the march, while the aggression sadly came from that fanatic, poisoned group of people, produced by a campaign that should be eliminated once for all. It is time to leave behind the phase of rocks and sticks if we truly want to achieve an effective national unity. [end recording]

PSD TO WITHDRAW FROM DISCUSSION ON PARTIES LAW

PA121705 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] The dissident parties of the Democratic Coordinating Board led by Alfonso Robelo will not continue to participate in the discussion of the law on political parties. The parties have ordered the withdrawal of the observers from the activities of the State Council special commission, alleging that they have already contributed their ideas on what a political parties law should be.

This was disclosed this afternoon by Wilfredo Montalvan, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party [PSD]. In a defiant attitude he said that they are not interested in what the other parties might say because yesterday's demonstration has convinced them that they have the support of the people.

Yesterday at the beginning of a march of the so-called democratic parties, Montalvan also adopted an offensive attitude towards the leaders of the revolution. He maintained his viewpoint today.

Regarding the law on political parties, Montalvan said that the coordinating board has ordered (Julio Ramon Vilchez) and (Walter Balladares) to cease attending the State Council. Asked if this meant a further estrangement from the process, he curtly replied: Let them describe it as they please.

BRIEFS

PLO TIES WITH NICARAGUA -- (Marwan Tahbub), PLO ambassador [as published] to Nicaragua, has stressed that ties between the PLO and Nicaragua are based on revolutionary principles and the fact that the two peoples have struggled for their independence and against imperialism. [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Jan 82 p 8 PA]

FRENCH ENVOY FAREWELL DINNER -- The members of the government's national junta and Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto gave a farewell dinner for departing French Ambassador to Nicaragua Paul Faire, who will leave in the near future. [Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 10 Dec 81 PA]

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE -- Managua, 9 Jan (AFP) -- Julio Zamora, Mexican ambassador in Managua, left his post and returned to his country today to participate in the electoral campaign of ruling party candidate Miguel de la Madrid. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2009 GMT 9 Jan 82 PA]

CASTRO MEETS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU MINISTER

FL091321 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received (Julio Somedo), a member of the African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Central Committee and deputy minister of foreign affairs of Guinea-Bissau. (Somedo) delivered a message from President Joao Bernardo Vieira to our top leader. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship. Present for the Guinean side was Commander (Joao Monteiro), Vice Foreign Minister Oscar Oramas and Cuban ambassador to Guinea-Bissau Armando Torres represented the Cuban side.

CASTRO RECEIVES REGIONAL SPORTS OFFICIALS

FL091948 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received officials of the Central American and Caribbean Sports Organization, ODECABE, last night at the Palace of Conventions. The officials are taking part in an important meeting of the ODECABE Executive Board to discuss the forthcoming 14th Central American and Caribbean games [to be held in Cuba in August 1982].

Fidel spoke with the members of the executive board, headed by board chairman German Rieckehoff, and was briefed on matters discussed at the opening session. The meeting resumed this morning to hear the report submitted by the organizing committee concerning preparations and the organization of the various sports to be featured in the event.

AFRICAN AMBASSADORS TO UN ARRIVE FOR VISIT

FL111307 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] At the invitation of Isidoro Malmierca, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, African ambassadors accredited at the United Nations have arrived in our country. The group is formed by 10 diplomats from Botswana, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Malawi, Tanzania, Swaziland, Algeria, Sierra Leone and Liberia, who will stay in Cuba until 17 January. They will visit production centers, educational institutions and places of historic interest and will be received by high officials of the government.

Hart Meets With Ambassadors

FL121855 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Politburo and minister of culture, has met with a group of African ambassadors accredited to the United Nations who are visiting Cuba. During the meeting held at the Palace of Conventions, he proposed important topics to be discussed at the UNESCO international conference on cultural policy to be held in Mexico next July. He said that Cuba is working within the Nonaligned Movement in order to take a common policy to that meeting. Hart also referred to the fact that a coordination meeting of the movement will be held in Havana in April and that there will be another meeting before that in Paris to discuss aspects of the Havana meeting. He mentioned topics which Cuba is interested in proposing in Mexico along with the nations which the ambassadors assisting the meeting represent. These topics are to consider culture as an essential element of development -- there is no independent and free culture without an independent and free development -- and the cultural identity of our peoples, which is part of the nonaligned program, he said.

AALAPSO MARKS SOUTH AFRICAN PARTY ANNIVERSARY

FL081612 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] The 70th anniversary of the African National Congress [ANC] has been commemorated in this capital with a ceremony at the offices of the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization, AALAPSO. Alex Laguma, ANC representative in our country, said that this anniversary had been dedicated to concerted action, both national and internatinal, to undertake the last assault on racism, fascism and internal oppression in his fatherland. He said that the most outstanding feature of the recent protests in South Africa had been the role played by the working class, which at all times was active and militant in the struggle against the capitalists and the regime. In conclusion, Laguma said that with the support of all progressive peoples the road will become shorter and the day of victory grows closer.

MONTANE MEETS WITH FRG SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

FL081305 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo, a member of the PCC Secretariat and head of the PCC General Department of Foreign Relations, has received the delegation of the Social Democratic faction in the FRG Parliament. The delegation is headed by deputy (Ernest Weitelmate). The other members of the delegation are deputies (Walter Felheg) and (Agne Borstin). They discussed governmental matters and relations between the FRG and Cuba. Present at the meeting were FRG ambassador to Cuba, Arnie Freitag and National Assembly and PCC Central Committee officials.

DEL VALLE OPENS CEMA SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING

FL121851 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Dr Sergio del Valle, member of the Communist Party Politburo and minister of public health, said yesterday on inaugurating the CEMA meeting on cardiovascular problems that the conference is being held at a very opportune time for us since this is a priority problem for the country's political leadership.

The fourth meeting of the CEMA plenipotentiary and scientific councils on complex medical problem No. 2 dealing with cardiovascular diseases is being held in this capital with the participation of representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, the USSR and Czechoslovakia.

In another part of his speech, Del Valle said that Cuba's participation in this CEMA problem is of great importance. He added that it has allowed the level of our cardiology to be raised and therefore to improve the care given to the people. The Cuban public health minister said that with this cooperation we have been able to define the main directions of the work regarding cardiovascular diseases, cardiovascular surgery and cerebral-cardiovascular diseases.

Sergio del Valle emphasized: During this 5-year period we hope to develop more our participation and to increase socialist scientific-technical cooperation since this is a sure road for our development and the improvement of our people's health.

The signing of the protocol of the agreements is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, when the fourth meeting of the CEMA plenipotentiary and scientific councils on complex medical problem No. 2 will end.

CEMA CELEBRATES CUBAN ANNIVERSARY IN MOSCOW

FL081323 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] The 23d anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution has been commemorated by CEMA at a formal ceremony during which our country's achievements were highlighted. Attending the ceremony were CEMA Secretary General Nikolay Faddeyev and other CEMA officials as well as the deputy permanent delegates of 10 member-nations and the minister-counselor of the Cuban Embassy, Luis Felipe Vazquez.

Cuba's deputy permanent delegate to CEMA, Ernesto Alvarez, spoke first, highlighting the achievements of our fatherland's economy during the past year, considered the year of most efficient performance since 1959 despite the fact that large material and human resources had to be devoted to the defense of the country. In addition to the U.S. threats still hanging over Cuba, Alvarez denounced the U.S.' biological warfare against the island, victim of sudden diseases which first hit several crops and more recently the population. The official gave thanks for the assistance provided by the CEMA countries, specially the Soviet Union. He cited the advantageous prices established for trade by the socialist community as opposed to those in effect in Western markets.

In the course of the CEMA ceremony in Moscow, Nguyen Xuan Trang from Vietnam and CEMA Deputy Secretary (A. Chauchev) spoke on behalf of CEMA's deputy permanent representatives and secretariat respectively. Both noted Cuba's achievements in all areas despite difficult conditions. (Chauchev) said that it could be observed with pride that Cuba, in addition to advancing in the construction of socialism, was giving important internationalist aid to 30 developing countries at present.

CUBA BIGGEST BUYER OF BULGARIAN INDUSTRIES

FL121306 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Cuba is the biggest importer of Bulgarian industrial complexes among the CEMA member-countries, according to statistics released in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.

In the past 15 years 10 industrial projects have been built in Cuba with Bulgarian cooperation. Some of them have been ice plants, preserved fruit plants, refrigerated warehouses, one agricultural machinery factory and another of irrigation systems.

Likewise, the statistics show that Bulgaria occupies the second place behind the Soviet Union in number of specialists working in our country, and makes a considerable contribution to the training of Cuban cadres in that Balkan nation. There are plans for the future Bulgarian participation in the modernization and reconstruction of several plants as well as the introduction of a more modern technology in various branches. In addition, the possibility of Bulgarian technicians participating in the development of the nickel industry and the construction of new forms of production based on nickel and cobalt contents is under study.

PCC SENDS GREETINGS TO ARGENTINE COMMUNISTS

FL061535 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jan 82

[Text] Cuba's Communist Party has sent a message of greetings to the Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of its founding.

The greeting reads: Today we commemorate 64 years since the creation of the PCA, throughout these years the struggle for peace, democracy and social justice which Argentine communists have developed inspired by Marxist-Leninist principles, has been long and persevering.

Today, on a new anniversary of its foundation, the communists and the Cuban people send fraternal greetings to the PCA in honor of its dedicated efforts in the struggle on behalf of the proletariat, the socialist cause and a more honorable life for the brother Argentine people.

CARICOM MINISTERS MEETING OPENS IN GUYANA

FL122221 Bridgetown CANA in English 2109 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, 12 Jan (CANA) -- The 20th Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Council of Ministers meeting got underway here today with reports of a flurry of activity in the regional integration movement and show of interest by non-English-speaking states.

Secretary general, Dr Kurleigh King, told delegates from 11 of the 12 member states, that CARICOM's image and reputation in the outside world are high. He expressed optimism that a series of ministerial meetings scheduled over the next month or so -- including those of ministers of foreign affairs, agriculture, health, transportation, and energy and industry -- will climax in the long-awaited heads of government conference early in the year.

A decision on Haiti's application for membership should be taken shortly, Dr King announced. "In addition, the Republic of Suriname, which began formal relations with CARIFTA with the grant of liaison status in April 1973, has publicly declared its intention to seek much closer relations now with CARICOM", he added.

Dr King drew attention to a high level team from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which began an official visit to the secretariat today. The visit comes on the heels of renewed initiatives on the part of the commission of the Andean Pact in South America to seek closer relations with the regional integration movement.

"Closer relations between that group and CARICOM could help us, especially as we are on the verge of embarking on a programme of industrial programming which has been the area of the Andean Group's most outstanding success", he said. Dr King also disclosed that Argentina has been following up on the initiatives taken in 1980 to pursue its contacts with the Caribbean within the framework of the CARICOM arrangement. Officials of CARICOM and Argentina will soon meet to explore the possibilities.

Brazil has also expressed an interest in looking at closer collaboration with CARICOM and it is expected that the Brazilian foreign minister, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, will have discussions with the secretariat when he visits Guyana later this month. Dr King said, however, that although CARICOM's image and reputation in the outside world were high, the integration movement had not altogether fulfilled its promise and some tough decisions needed to be taken in order to consolidate gains and prepare for the challenges of the decade.

He described as a positive move the opportunity being given the private sector today to express to the political leadership of the member states, its views on CARICOM's structure, institutions and prospects. Dr King was referring to a meeting of the joint consultative group, including the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC), which met with the ministers this morning, following the opening session.

Dr King's sentiments on the future of the movement were echoed by the new council chairman, Mr Richard Caines, minister of state in the Ministry of Finance in St Kitts-Nevis. He replaces Montserrat minister of education, health and welfare, Franklyn Margotson.

DOMINICA

POLICE MAKE ARRESTS, SEIZE ARMS, DRUGS

FL112219 Bridgetown CANA in English 2205 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 11 Jan (CANA) -- Dominica police have arrested five men, two French nationals and three Dominicans, after seizing a quantity of goods, including firearms, on the vessel on which they arrived here.

Acting Police Commissioner Ensley Pierre told reporters that among the goods seized were three double barrel 12 bore shotguns and nine flare guns. He said the police acting on a tip off, had been able to arrest the men on their arrival at a southern coastal village here yesterday, loaded with the goods. The officer declined to name those arrested.

Mr Pierre said the boat "La Tower de Beger" had arrived from one of the neighbouring French islands.

The goods seized by the police also included a wooden case of jewelry, a quantity of marijuana, one motor cycle and a ladies bicycle. The acting police commissioner said the men were being detained while investigations continued.

Meanwhile two Canadians were deported from Dominica today because of what Mr Pierre called "immigration matters." The two men -- Arrni Pollio and Ralf Lampe -- were picked up by the police over the last weekend for questioning. The acting police commissioner would give no further reasons for the action saying it was done at a purely immigration level.

GRENADA

CUBAN PEOPLE CONGRATULATED BY PRIME MINISTER

FL082016 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1907 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has stated that Cuba is writing a glorious chapter in the history of cooperation and assistance among the peoples with its performance in the field of internationalist aid. This statement is part of a congratulatory message sent by the New Jewel Movement and the Grenadian Government to the Cuban people on the occasion of the 23d anniversary of our revolution's triumph.

Signed by Prime Minister Bishop and addressed to Fidel, the message notes that the Grenadians will always be grateful for the generous assistance offered by the Cuban Government and people. It indicates that, through the growing contact between the citizens of the two countries, the ties of friendship and fraternity between Cubans and Grenadians are broadening and strengthening more and more.

Today there is a lot in common between Cuba's and Grenada's revolutions, such as an unrelenting opposition to imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and fascism and a firm commitment to the struggle for world peace, disarmament and social progress, Bishop's message to the Cuban people points out. There is no doubt that in coming years those similarities will increase in number, the message adds.

Elsewhere in the message, the Grenadian people's indignation over the growing lies, military threats and bacteriological attacks against the Cuban people by the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan is voiced. The message notes that despite the frantic efforts of imperialism aimed at clouding the image of the Cuban revolution, it continues to be a brilliant beacon in the international community of nations.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND OECS MEETING IN ANTIGUA

FL121622 Bridgetown CANA in English 1607 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 12 Jan (CANA) -- Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman is to head the Grenada delegation at tomorrow's meeting of the recently launched organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in Antigua. Other members are: Gloria Payne-Banfield, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Planning, and Ashley Taylor, legal advisory to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The conference from January 13-16 is a follow-up to the first high level OECS meeting held in St Lucia last month and at which the organisation was formally launched. Among the issues to be looked at during the St John's meeting are the Eastern Caribbean Tourism Association (ECTA), the operational matters related to the organisation's staffing and budget, as well as civil aviation.

The OECS groups St Lucia, Dominica, Grenada, St Vincent, Antigua, Monsterrat and St Kitts-Nevis. The seven governments have agreed to coordinate action in a number of areas including foreign and economic affairs, defense and security, and functional cooperation.

HAITI

REBEL GROUP MEMBERS SURRENDER TO SECURITY FORCES

PA111848 Paris AFP in English 1813 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 11 Jan (AFP) -- Two of a group of six exiled Haitians who tried to seize control of an offshore island gave up without a fight to Haitian security forces, sources here said today. The two gave themselves up yesterday, and their four companions were still being sought, the sources said. Their attempt to seize the Ile de la Tortue, a few miles off the Haitian north coast, was reportedly the first step towards overthrowing the regime of President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier. But reticence by the local population apparently demoralized the group, according to the sources.

Late yesterday, Information Minister Jean-Marie Chanoine said in a communique that a handful of rebels had been foiled by the local population and the armed forces after landing on the island Saturday from the Turks and Caicos Islands, some 225 kms (140 miles) north of Haiti. Reports said they landed in a seaplane based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

On Friday, Haitian exile leader Bernard Sansaricq told the Miami HERALD that he and some 40 other Haitian exiles would shortly stage an invasion of Haiti to topple its regime.

Last October, an unidentified light plane dropped leaflets here calling on the army and militia to overthrow the president and support Mr Sansaricq. The situation was calm here today. But many Haitians, particularly those in the tourist trade, were concerned about possible negative consequences of the incident.

Remaining Members Captured

PA122005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1543 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 12 Jan (AFP) -- The Haitian security forces today captured four exiles who landed on Tortuga Island, northwest of Haiti, on Saturday, it was learned from a reliable source here today. The four men were wearing olive green uniforms, caps like the ones worn by the U.S. Marines, and carried U.S.-made M-16 rifles.

According to the same source, there were no clashes or victims. The men were captured on the western side of Tortuga Island by soldiers from Port-de-Paix and militiamen from the island. The soldiers were members of a small squad of Leopards, an intervention corps created in 1971 by the then-ruling president, Francois Duvalier.

New Landing Reported

PA121842 Paris AFP in Spanish 1824 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 12 Jan (AFP) -- A new landing of 40 Haitian exiles apparently occurred early this morning on Tortuga Island.

Similar operations have been reported in this area by various sources in the past few days. The Haitian information minister refused to confirm or deny the report.

JAMAICA

SEAGA TRAVELS TO U.S., SEEKS ECONOMIC AID

FL112124 Bridgetown CANA in English 2017 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 11 Jan (CANA) -- Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga, has gone to the United States for discussions with financial institutions on Jamaica's economic prospects, as well as to woo developmental assistance for his country. Mr Seaga left here last night for Washington, and according to Jamaica House (the prime minister's office), he will hold talks with the World Bank, the International Money Fund (IMF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The discussions will centre on economic development programmes here for 1982 and projects to be undertaken over the next three years, Jamaica House said, but gave no details.

In Washington Mr Seaga is to also deliver a lecture at Howard University. The Jamaican prime minister is to also go to New York to address the Council for Foreign Relations, as well as announce a major development project for Jamaica's northwestern city of Montego Bay. Mr Seaga will visit Atlanta to address a benefit function by the Institute of International Education, which with Georgia State University will be providing scholarships for vocational teacher trainers in crafts and technology. Mr Seaga is expected to be away for a week.

ST LUCIA

UPROAR IN PARLIAMENT AS OPPOSITION PROTESTS BILL

FL120137 Bridgetown CANA in English 2358 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 11 Jan (CANA) -- St Lucia was calm on the surface tonight as the government waited to see if protests against a controversial bill would spread. Opposition parliamentarians this morning caused an abrupt end to the sitting of the House of Assembly after one of them, ex-Minister George Odlum hurled the mace into the visitor's gallery and the Chamber of Commerce got several of its members to close their businesses in two major protests against the bill.

As the government waited the outcome of separate Chamber of Commerce and Civil Service Association meetings tonight to decide on what action should be taken, city life appeared normal.

It was in contrast to the tension of the morning, when policemen armed with machine guns and batons moved in to protect government MP's from hundreds of opposition supporters who had headed for Parliament, answering a call to protest against the bill. The government wants to make two major changes to a 1960 law, which calls for the resignation of any member of the House of Assembly who fails within the one month deadline, to account to the state for a subsistence allowance -- hotel expenses, transportation, meals, etc -- incurred while conducting business on behalf of the government. The government now proposes to stretch from one to 18 months the time by which an account for the subsistence payments must be given.

It also wants to change a clause in the 1960 law dealing with conflict of business interests between government members and the state.

If the bill is approved in the house, where the government has a slender one-member majority, such professional services may be offered by an MP who is not a minister to the government, or to a department of the government, or to an officer of the government or to members of the public, wholly or partly at the public expense.

Opposition parties here claimed that the government was trying to guarantee the survival in the house of its members who had contravened the regulations. Opposition leader John Compton said he had written the governor general, claiming that the nine government members in the house had broken the regulations, thereby forfeiting their right to sit in the chamber.

Mr Compton's United Workers Party (UWP), and Mr Odlum's Progressive Labour Party (PLP) have held separate public meetings to protest against the bill. One feature which the two said they found particularly distasteful was the plan to have the proposed law backdated to February, 1979.

They said they would be joining forces to bring down the Labour Party Government which has so far survived a leadership crisis and a no-confidence motion in Parliament. The new bill bears the title: Legislative Council, Contract With Government Disqualification Amendment Ordinance. The Chamber of Commerce said that if passed it would represent a dangerous precedent on the government's part.

Unions Demand Bill Withdrawal

FL122352 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Castries, St Lucia, 12 Jan (CANA) -- Four major trade unions here have called for the immediate withdrawal of the controversial legislative council amendment bill now before the St Lucia Parliament. The call has come from the powerful National Workers Union (NWU), the St Lucia Workers Union (SWU), the St Lucia Teachers Union (STU), and the Civil Service Association (CSA). A joint statement said that the unions regarded the bill as an endorsement of corruption.

The unions expressed the view that the bills should be withdrawn no later than Friday and an undertaken should be given by the government that no attempt would be made to reintroduce them in another form. They said that failure to meet these demands will result in their taking whatever action they consider to be appropriate.

The unions also expressed concern about the state and pace of negotiations between the government and the CSA, the STU, the Nurses Association and the Fire Service association, over higher pay for civil servants. The unions and the government will meet on Thursday. The four unions said if there was no agreement then they would be forced to consider what action should be taken in furtherance of the workers' interest.

The four unions said they had agreed to submit a plan for St Lucia's economic recovery to the government. Failure to implement this plan, they concluded, will lead to the removal of the government.

The Small Business Association (SBA) meanwhile today called on members to close their businesses immediately pending discussions with other organisations on the controversial bill.

Odlum Comments on Crisis

FL130030 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpts] As the new political crisis in St Lucia develops, four of the island's major trade unions have given the government up to Friday to withdraw the controversial bill which it presented in the island's Parliament 24 hours ago.

Today's action by the union follows similar protests by the island's Chamber of Commerce, the manufacturers association and the small business association, all of which have called on their members to close the doors of their businesses indefinitely until there is a dissolution of Parliament or until the matter is cleared once and for all.

Radio Free Grenada's [RFG] "News Tonight" spoke to Mr [George] Odlum [leader of Progressive Labor Party, PLP] in an exclusive interview and he explained the reaction of the people to the present situation in St Lucia: [Begin recording] The reaction of the people is almost totally and completely antigovernment. This is because of the accumulation of acts of corruption and the government trying to govern without a proper mandate. So this looks like a pretty serious situation and the opposition forces are moving to hold a series of meetings and public marches in the next couple of days aimed at bringing the government down completely. [end recording]

Odlum was asked why his party had now allied itself with the United Workers Party [UWP] of former Prime Minister John Compton which his party had campaigned against and unseated on the same question of corruption in government. [Begin recording] There is no alliance with the UWP. There is, right now, there is a consolidation of forces to get the government out. But there is a feeling of, kind of unity, (?under way) in the country in getting the government out which is leading people to explore the possibilities of sharing (?seats) and moving towards a more centralized structure. The importance of such a centralized structure will be who controls. [end recording]

Odlum also shed some light on the possibility of the Cenac government surviving this present crisis. [Begin recording] The government can only survive if the total hold of the people against them is relaxed. And we have now to ensure that this grip on the government and the economy is sustained. [end recording]

The PLP leader said that what the forces opposed to the government are trying to achieve is progressive government for St Lucia. [Begin recording] I would like to make the point that what we are trying to achieve is a progressive, consolidated force in St Lucia which would take the economy and put it back on track -- put it on track on a new direction, that is -- and, secondly, to give further direction to the trend that is taking place in the eastern Caribbean in the face of the type of international threats and coercion going on. It's very important that the leadership in St Lucia is right and this is what we're trying to achieve, a unified people under progressive direction. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the Workers Revolutionary Movement [WRM] of St Lucia in a statement released this afternoon said that the SLP [St Lucia Labor Party] government both under former Prime Minister Allan Louisy and under the current leadership of Prime Minister Winston Cenac, had been criticized by all sections of the general public for its practices of corruption. But in response to the concerns of the people, the WRM said, the St Lucia Government has become so bold as to attempt to pass bills to condone and legalize its corrupt practices. And in an exclusive interview with RFG [Radio Free Grenada] WRM chairman (Lawrence Payot) said that his organization is calling on the people of St Lucia to be careful and not to allow local opportunists to take control of the situation for their own opportunist political ends. [Begin recording] As the political struggle intensifies against these acts, not only the working class and people but also the bourgeoisie and the political representatives have joined the fray. As the struggle continues to develop, the working people and their leaders must ensure that (?the men) who in the past have shown themselves to be hostile to the working people and their interest do not take control of the situation for their own narrow ends. [End recording]

Meantime, the St Lucia Government, through its attorney general and minister of justice, who is himself one of the prime targets of the accusations of corrupt practices, has denied that corruption exists in the government. The denial was made in an address on the state media last night. Prime Minister Cenac will address the nation on radio and television at 8 o'clock tonight in his first reaction to the situation.

BOUTERSE OUTLINES 1982 OBJECTIVES TO NATION

FL122237 Bridgetown CANA in English 2145 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 12 Jan (CANA) -- Suriname's army chief, Lt Colonel Daysi Bouterse, has said the major objectives this year of country's military-backed government will be to increase national production through self-effort, self-management and self-control.

Speaking on national radio and television, Bouterse said there should be no hesitation to correct mistakes made by the government during 1981, adding that he was looking forward to the new year with "revolutionary optimism."

"The nation now has an obligation to reflect on the state of affairs in the country's development and to obtain an obligation over its tasks and ideas, (and) over its attitude and to position itself in the new year in order to guarantee a continued better future," the army chief said.

He added that the February 1980 coup which brought the government to power should be an inspiration to the people to work towards attaining their national objectives for a better life.

Lt Col Bouterse spoke too of the need for greater social care in the country, and increased cultural awareness.

These he said were objectives to which the government of President Henk Chin A Sen was dedicated.

He called on his fellow countrymen to support the objectives of the government, adding that with self-effort, self-management, self-control and self-reliance they could be attained.

"The revolutionary gains made to date was largely due to the support that was given to the 1980 revolution," Bouterse said.

The army chief however made no mention of any proposed constitutional developments. President Chin A Sen said in his new year's address to the nation that a new constitution for the republic would be discussed this year.

Following the February 1980 coup, the constitution was suspended and a commission appointed by the government to draft a new one submitted its recommendations last year.

Government had hinted that the new constitution would most likely take effect from this year.

NAARENDORP VIEWS RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST BLOC

FL121642 Bridgetown CANA in English 1625 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 12 Jan (CANA) -- Suriname's military-backed government will be moving this year to consolidate the gains it made in executing its foreign policy during 1981, Foreign Minister Harvey Naarendorp said in a radio interview here.

He said the former Dutch colony, now undergoing a socialist transformation, had come closer to cementing ties with the socialist bloc countries, mentioning Cuba and Romania in particular, without at the same time offending Suriname's traditional friends.

Mr Naarendorp also mentioned the various conferences, dealing with Latin America and the Caribbean region, to which the government had sent representatives as indication that the country was trying to expand its relations with its immediate neighbours. [Words indistinct] to the world what the country was striving towards, the minister said.

He pointed out that the United Nations as the world's top forum had provided Suriname's leaders with the opportunity to speak with leaders from the other parts of the world far from Suriname with a view to developing ties.

Mr Naarendorp said Suriname's policy of non-alignment, support for a new international economic order, opposition to South Africa's apartheid system, and the other principles to which this country was committed for the strengthening of world peace will continue during 1982.

There will be no deviation from those positions, he stressed.

Asked to comment on the Polish situation, Mr Naarendorp said his government would continue to maintain a stand that Poland was able to solve its internal problems by itself.

"Every interference from outside clashes with the nation's self determination", Mr Naarendorp said.

He added: "In principle every intervention from whichever superpower in another country is unacceptable. This standpoint is a policy decision of the Suriname Government and will be always applied without distinction."

The minister said he was convinced that the inventiveness and creativity of the Polish nation would ensure that the problems now confronted will be solved shortly.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

NAVY OFFICERS DISCUSS SOUTH ATLANTIC DEFENSE

PY111655 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] The 10th local navy commanders meeting on operations control has begun at navy headquarters [in Buenos Aires]. The meeting is attended by high-ranking officers from the Brazilian, Paraguayan, Uruguayan and Argentine Navies. The sessions are presided over by Rear Adm (Edgardo Otero), chief of operations of the Argentine Navy staff, who holds the post of coordinator of the South Atlantic maritime area.

The meeting will last until Friday and deal with a study of the measures to be taken in defense of the South Atlantic in relation to the other naval forces on the continent as well as NATO.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

SEA PATROLS INCREASED TO AVERT INVASION OF HAITI

PA111920 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1727 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 11 Jan [LATIN-REUTER] -- The Dominican Republic today intensified its naval and air patrols of the northwestern coast to prevent the use of Dominican territory by Haitian exiles as a launching site for an invasion of neighboring Haiti.

Lt Gen Mario Imbert McGregor, the secretary of the armed forces, said that vigilance had been increased in view of reports which indicated that a group of Haitian exiles led by Bernard Sansaricq planned to invade Haiti from other islands.

The Dominican Republic and Haiti share the territory of the island of Hispaniola in the Caribbean and have a common border about 270 km long.

General Imbert McGregor said that the patrols had not reported any unusual movements of groups of exiles in the Dominican Republic.

It was also reported that there was calm in the border areas and traffic between the two countries was normal.

The immigration authorities said that approximately 19,000 Haitians who come every year for the sugar harvest were "working normally."

"At this time we have no evidence that Haitian groups have used our country as a base for carrying out an attack against Haiti," said Col Mariano Bautista de Oleo, the director of immigration.

The situation in the Dominican Republic, he reported, was normal and Col Olando Saillant, a spokesman of the armed forces, denied troops had been restricted to quarters.

Meanwhile, the Haitian Embassy declined to comment on presumed plans for invasion by the exiles. Last week, the embassy denied reports that President Jean-Claude Duvalier had been wounded in an attempted assassination attack.

CHILE

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS U.S. CONGRESSMEN

PY121152 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Excerpt] The U.S. congressmen who are visiting Santiago are very much interested in fully reestablishing bilateral relations. These remarks were made by Acting Foreign Minister Sergio Covarrubias at the conclusion of a meeting with a U.S. delegation of seven of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee headed by Democrat Melvin Price. Covarrubias explained that the primary purpose of the U.S. congressmen's visit is to reestablish bilateral relations. He said that a thorough study of current world and regional affairs were discussed and that he conveyed to the U.S. congressmen greetings from President Pinochet.

URUGUAY

URUGUAYANS IN SINAI PEACE FORCE NOT COMBAT TROOPS

PY080059 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1315 GMT 7 Jan 82

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Jan 82 (TELAM) -- Military sources here today revealed that the command of the multinational peace force that will take over the Sinai Penninsula, which includes a Uruguayan officer, will be headquartered in Italy. Uruguayan Army Maj Eduardo Couture has been working in Washington since November 1981 as a member of the high command which will oversee the implementation of the Camp David accords.

The 80 Uruguayan soldiers who are scheduled to leave for the penninsula in March will be commanded by Lt Col Carlos Grasso. The Uruguayan soldiers are not combat troops but specialists in handling military transport units. These soldiers will share their tasks with U.S., Colombian, and Fijian officers and soldiers who are also part of the Sinai multinational force.

VENEZUELA

U.S. MISSIONARIES' ACTIVITIES TO BE INVESTIGATED

PA121227 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0305 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] Caracas, 11 Jan (EFE) -- Several protestant U.S. missionaries will be investigated by the Justice Ministry in view of the Catholic Church's charges regarding their activities in the Indian territory of Bolivar State on the border with Brazil. Justice Minister Reynaldo Chalbaud Certad announced today that a commission comprised of three ministry directors will investigate the protestant missionaries' abuses against the Indians. The Ciudad Bolivar archbishop, Msgr Crisanto Mata Cova, has announced his support the charges made by the apostolic vicar of Uairen, Mariano Gutierrez. Gutierrez charged that the protestants prevent the Indians from practicing either the Catholic religion or their own. Monsignor Mata Cova has described the activities, carried out by the Evangelical groups, among them the one known as New Tribes, as "open interference." He has accused the protestants of "radicalism, anti-ecumenism and hindering the Catholic Church's traditional activities." According to him, the U.S. missionaries do not let the Indians eat certain foods or drink certain beverages. These practices go against the Indians' customs.

According to other reports, protected by the freedom given them due to their evangelist mission, the U.S. missionaries have constructed a landing strip and have installed themselves near a number of diamond concessions.

The New Tribes' activity was investigated several months ago. Its members were linked to secret research on the existence of uranium in Venezuela's Amazon jungle.